



October 11, 2006

Consul General Stein K. Gudmundseth  
Royal Norwegian Consulate General  
1200 Waterfront Centre  
200 Burrard Street  
Vancouver, BC

Dear Consul General Gudmundseth,

Canada and Norway have a long history of friendly and solid relations valued highly by the citizens of both countries.

In recent years, however, the behavior of certain Norwegian-owned businesses is casting Norway in an unfortunate light.

We are referring to the operations of the salmon farming industry on the B.C. coast.

We applaud Norway's decision to designate certain fjords and rivers as National Salmon Rivers and Salmon Fjords to address the decline of precious wild salmon stocks. We also heartily endorse your government's efforts to restrict and control the activities of open net-cage salmon farms in these areas of critical importance to wild salmon survival.

Regrettably, the Canadian government has not demonstrated the same level of commitment and foresight and as a result, B.C.'s wild salmon are still suffering the

consequences of sea lice infestations from open net-cage salmon farms on the out-migration routes of juvenile wild stocks.

While we, as Canadians, are doing our utmost to urge our government to act it is disheartening to watch Norwegian-owned salmon farming companies acting with impunity in the absence of restrictions similar to those in their home country.

The actions of these companies reflect poorly on Norway and its citizens. We would urge you, in your role as Consul General, to encourage your government to request these companies to treat B.C.'s wild salmon with the same respect accorded to Norway's important wild stocks. The failure of the Canadian government to act responsibly should not be interpreted by Norwegian-owned firms as a green light to destroy B.C.'s threatened wild pink and chum salmon runs.

Thank you for considering this issue of grave concern to all British Columbians.

Sincerely,

Catherine Stewart  
Living Oceans Society  
Vancouver, BC

Dom Repta  
Friends of Clayoquot Sound  
Vancouver, BC

Geoff Senichenko  
Western Canada Wilderness Committee  
Vancouver, BC